

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 10, and 12 have been amended. Claims 1-16 remain pending.

The Examiner is requested to correct the Attorney Docket Number in the Office Action cover sheet. The correct Docket Number is 2003P04176US01.

The specification has been amended to correct informalities therein.

An Information Disclosure Statement accompanies this Amendment.

A Terminal Disclaimer accompanies this Amendment to remove the provisional double-patenting rejection.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seki et al. Claim 1 has been amended to define the invention more clearly and thus, obviate the rejection. In particular, claim 1 as amended provides a vapor collection canister defining a volume with a partition within the vapor collection canister dividing the volume into at least first and second portions, the first port being in communication with the first portion and the second port being in communication with the second portion. In addition, at least one temperature sensor is provided in each of the first and second portions.

Seki et al. do not teach a partition in the canister or temperature sensors in portions divided by a partition. Therefore, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 4-5 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Seki et al. in view of Aramaki, and claims 6-8 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Seki et al. in view of Aramaki and further in view of Belanger. These claims depend from claim 1 and are considered to be allowable for the reasons advanced above with regard to claim 1 and for the additional reason that the added subject matter thereof is not taught or suggested by the prior art of record.

Claims 9-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seki et al. in view of Belanger. Claim 9 has been amended to define the invention more clearly and thus obviate the rejection. In particular, claim 9 as amended recites that the vapor collection canister defines a volume with a partition within the vapor collection canister dividing the volume into at least first and second portions, the first port being in

communication with the first portion and the second port being in communication with the second portion. In addition, at least one temperature sensor is provided in each of the first and second portions.

Seki et al. or Belanger do not teach a partition in the canister or temperature sensors in portions divided by a partition. Therefore, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 12-16 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Seki et al. in view of Belanger and further in view of Aramaki. These claims depend from claim 9 and are considered to be allowable for the reasons advanced above with regard to claim 9 and for the additional reason that the added subject matter thereof is not taught or suggested by the prior art of record.

All rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rashmi S. Raj', followed by the text 'Reg No 3601762'.

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